

In re ) Fair Hearing No. 20,372  
 )  
Appeal of )

The petitioner appealed a decision of the Department for Children and Families, Health Access Eligibility Unit (HAEU) closing her Vermont Health Access Program (VHAP) Pharmacy benefits. The issue is whether the petitioner failed to pay her premium.

1. The petitioner received a notice dated May 19, 2006 from the Department informing her that her VHAP Pharmacy eligibility would be closed if she did not pay her premium.

2. During the spring of 2006, the petitioner received information regarding Medicare Part D. Upon electing coverage through AARP, petitioner received a statement and paid AARP during May, 2006. She did not think that any monies would then be owing to the Department for the VHAP Pharmacy program.

3. At the hearing held on July 27, 2006, the petitioner did not dispute that she had not paid her premium

for the VHAP Pharmacy program prior to the May 31, 2006 closure date.

4. The petitioner was advised to immediately reapply for the VHAP Pharmacy program.

ORDER

The Department's decision is affirmed.

REASONS

Under the VHAP Pharmacy regulations, the Department requires all beneficiaries to pay \$15.00 per month to be enrolled. W.A.M. § 3303.1. There is no dispute that as of the date the Department closed petitioner's VHAP pharmacy benefits that the petitioner had not paid her monthly premium. In conclusion, the Department's finding that the petitioner's VHAP Pharmacy benefit be closed must be affirmed. 3 V.S.A. §3091(d), Fair Hearing Rule No. 17.

###